

**Abstract**

A method of operation of a fluid ejection printhead within a predetermined thermal range to print an image, wherein the printhead temperature is measured and if the temperature is below a predetermined threshold, the printhead is heated by pulses of  
5 energy to a desired temperature above the predetermined threshold temperature before printing. Where thermal bend actuators are used in the printhead, heating is controlled such that the pulses of energy are insufficient to cause ejection of fluid from the printhead.